

THE INDEPENDENT

— ASSUMED —

EVERY AFTERNOON

(Except Sunday)

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lisher.

Residing in Honolulu.

THURSDAY, APRIL 7, 1904.

THE PROFESSIONAL BOARD.

MR. GOVERNOR:—What are the triumphs and monuments of our Board of Health? Shall we point to the multitude of burial mounds that dot and disfigure these fair Islands? Shall we expose to view the unwholesome condition of the city of Honolulu; the close, damp yards, foul with slop and garbage, the noxious privies and other disease-breeders of the capital? Shall we take you to the decaying huts or other ill-constructed dwellings of the poor people of the Islands, and show the damp and mould and bad ventilation of disease-breeding lodgings, never visited by a physician of the Board of Health? Can we present to the philanthropists of the world some monument of hygiene, some instruction on health, some book, or tract, as a work of love in behalf of poor, sick, dying Hawaiian people, produced during the past years by a faithful, humane, "professional" Board of Health? What can we show? What can we present in behalf of this Board? There is no voice of praise, nor sign of honor for this Board in all this broad Territory but the "dollar"! There is no song of thankfulness in the hearts of the Hawaiian people for any unpaid mission of bodily healing. And yet there should have been. What a grand opportunity for a true physician, representing the authority of the Government and backed with emolument and patronage during the past years! What opportunities to have taught the

laws of health, to have devised ways and means to train nurses for the care of the sick and the little ones, to have made households healthful, and to have made a glorious mark in promoting, through wisely devised and energetically carried out measures for sanitary improvements, the increase, instead of daily decimation, of the Hawaiian people. With such opportunities an earnest physician could have visited every dwelling in the group to look into its neck for an improved sanitary condition. He could have made instruction in respect to the laws of health as plain to the Hawaiian or Portuguese as it is to the American educated mind. He could have improved all the habitations of the poor and have advanced the sanitary welfare of the country. To have accomplished this he would not have required any more means than have been at the command of the professional President, or professional gentlemen, of the Board, during the past years. Let us invite every doctor in the land, to assist with his skill, his knowledge and experience, to consider and combat the destroying influences that decimate the people. Let us strengthen the hands of good doctors. Life and Death are often in their hands; let them give their time solely to the care of the sick. Then, if any dangerous epidemic should rage, let the doctors, untrammelled with any care of business or "boards", give up their undivided attention to sufferers, who may claim their attention and the faithful physician will win his just emoluments and the blessings of a grateful people.

Mr. Governor, we ought to have a change. After a trial, these years, of doctors directing the Board, we might make a trial, for the next year at least, of a Board directing the doctors. We might not win any triumphs to gladden the hearts of the well-wishers of Hawaii; the results are in the hands of God. But we might place every town, hamlet and dwelling under a thoroughly improved sanitary condition. We might, with less appropriations, in the hands of business men, employ the very best medical skill and the noblest energies of, not only good men, but, good women, to co-operate in the work of providing for the health of the people, so that a satisfied country and an enlightened opinion everywhere should say, This Board of Health, at least, has done its duty.

"Specialists" In The Schools.

Many among the pedagogic fraternity, so we are given to understand, are compelled to learn the tonic of sol-fa system of music from a lady specialist in the employ of the Board of Education, a certain Mrs. Tucker. Daily and nightly some of them are continually thumping their pianos, if they are fortunate enough to own such a luxury, and are ever humming their notes—"do, do, do," or "do, me, fa," or "do, me, sol, do," but it is continually "do, do, do." Young and old are made nervous over it and it is said that the strain upon their minds is something awful, and that their nights are made sleepless in the fear that they might make a mistake and fail. The older ones seem that they are never too old to learn anew and they appear somewhat childish under such special tuition. Better get rid of these old women, Mrs.

Tucker not being the only one; there is Mrs. Yarnley in singing, Miss Adams in calisthenics and Miss Taber in drawing. These special studies are not needed in our public schools, but give the children good, wholesome, sound and useful education to fit them properly for life's duties. It is useless to teach them these specialties. If parents desire to have their children learn music, to know how to draw, etc., make them pay for such luxuries themselves.

A Hater Of Hawaiians.

Of all the rancorous despisers of the Hawaiian, one who hates even the sight of them and the ground upon which they have trodden all through the dark ages down to the present days of Christian enlightenment, days of the worst evils that have since befallen a once proud and independent people, none can beat Walter G. Smith, editor of the Advertiser, who was imported for that special purpose from the time he set foot here in 1893 and since re-imported by that other arch-despiser of Hawaiians and all things Hawaiian, the ever redoubtable and irrepressible Lorrin A. Thurston. His hate was that of a paid hireling, a Hessian in disguise, and once upon a time after his advent, so the story runs, he paid regular nocturnal visits to the house of a prominent Hawaiian annexationist, who was doing it only for pelf, where he attempted to force himself upon the tender mercies of certain good natured Cleopatras, and was spurned with contempt, because he was so brutish, treating them as mere playthings for one's lascivious use and heaping insults upon them in return for the slight given him, rather priding themselves in their chastity in spite of his advances. This may account for his resentment and the vilification he harbors against Hawaiians, heaping abuse upon abuse against them in general.

Very Bad Suggestion.

That the Governor is thinking of appointing F. C. Smith to be President of the Board of Health is hard to believe. Dr. Cooper was bad enough but, heaven knows, Smith is a plagued sight worse. He is a man devoid of experience and mentally incapable of tackling the responsibilities of such an important office. Even had he the time to devote to the work, he would not and could not prove satisfactory to the people. There are a large number of excellent men for this place in the city, and the Governor should not find it difficult to select one.

TOPICS OF THE DAY.

If E. P. Dole has really withdrawn from the race for a position on the Supreme Court bench, he has, for once, shown his good sense. The President, while probably not seriously objecting to prayer, is doubtless looking for a man whose efforts are not handicapped by the meshes of faith that knows not work.

The Advertiser wants to know if this is to be a Home Rule or Home Rule Legislature. Don't Know. The Legislature contains a large majority of Republican members, and, as a rule, Republicans are capable of making almost anything rotten out of a session.

We think, however, that if let alone by the Advertiser and its crowd for a while the Legislature will do pretty well.

The curtain has been rung down on Judge Kalia, of Maui, and the gentleman will now have the opportunity of a long vacation. President Roosevelt was not slow in dealing with the case, and it is not to be supposed that he will be slow in filling the vacancy. The person most capable of filling the place is Treasurer Kepoikai and certain it is that he would be more satisfactory to the people at large. Let him be appointed.

It is understood that J. G. Pratt and D. H. Case are applicants for the Maui judgeship. Where is E. P. Dole, L. A. Dickey and the other professional applicants for Government billets? It will not seem like old times if they do not hob up somewhere in the game.

The toy politicians of the Republican party carried out their toy election last night without bloodshed. Aside from affording a smile or two to serious people, there was little to the incident, and the quotation on the price of hot air subsided to normal early this morning.

LOST

On Sunday, March 27, between Pawa and Kawaishao Church, an oval corneal stone brooch, plain and twisted gold mountings. Finder will be suitably rewarded by returning to McGuire's Express office, Masonic Temple, Alakea St. 2774 1w

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